

### **REMARKS**

In response to the final Official Action of February 19, 2010, claims 1, 3, 6-12, 14-16, 19-22, 26, 27, 30, 33, 35, 36, and 38 have been amended in a manner which is believed to particularly point out and distinctly claim the invention. After amendment, claims 1-3, 5-16, 18-30, 33-36, and 38 are pending. No new matter is added.

In particular, claim 1 has been amended to clearly separate the method aspects and to make these aspects distinct from one another; that is, to clearly show the automatically tracing, extracting, automatically recording, presenting, and providing actions. This part of the amendment merely serves to clarify the operation of the recited method.

Claim 1 has also been amended to explicitly recite that the "recorded item list" is presented to the (one or more) "target applications... to allow the user-selection of one or more recorded items from the list". The basis for this "presenting" action is found in the original application as filed, including page 8, lines 27-30 of the specification.

Claim 1 has also been amended to recite that "one or more items" can be user-selected from the presented list. Support for this amendment is found in the original application as filed, including page 8, lines 30-36 of the specification.

Furthermore, claim 1 has been amended to illustrate that the list of items can first be presented at the target application(s) to allow for user-selection, and that the user-selected items are the items which are provided to the target application(s). The basis for this distinction between the "presented" action and the "providing" action can be found in the original application as filed, including page 8, lines 27-30; specifically, wherein it states "a list comprising the saved items [i.e., the recorded list item] is presented to the user. The items can be viewed or deleted or selected to be transferred [to] the target applications [i.e., the user-selected items are provided to the target application(s)]."

Furthermore, claim 16 has been amended to recite "the one or more items extracted from the traced operation is the determinant part of the traced operation". Support for this amendment is found in the original application as filed, including page 8, lines 14-16. Similar amendment has been made to claim 33.

Amendments have been made to the remaining claims of the present application in order to be in conformity with the above-recited amendments (i.e., amended the other independent claims to be in conformity with amended claim 1, as well as amendment of the other dependent claims to be in conformity with those with regard to amended claim 1). No new matter is added.

### **Claim Rejections - 35 USC §103**

At pages 2-9, claims 1-3, 5-9, 11-16, 18-25, 27, 29, 30, 33, 34, and 38 are rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over US patent 6,735,347, Bates, et al (hereinafter Bates), in view of IBM Technical Disclosure Bulletin, July 1992, Volume 35, Issue 2, page 425, NN9207425, entitled Multiple Item On-Line Clipboard (hereinafter IBM). With respect to claim 1, the Office asserts that Bates discloses the claimed method except that it does not teach recording said item automatically into a list of traced and recorded items in a file of the tracing application, said list comprising traced and recorded items from various source applications, wherein said file comprises items of different media types and said file is located on said device. The Office relies upon Bates for this feature and further states that it would be obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to place multiple items from multiple cut/copy operations into a clipboard as taught by IBM in the invention of Bates so that users can save time.

In view of the amendment to claim 1, applicant respectfully disagrees.

The present claimed invention as set forth in amended claim 1 recites a method with the following features:

- i. automatically tracing a latest operation performed by at least one source application (using a tracing application);
- ii. extracting at least one item from the traced operation, - this item is not the operation itself, but an element/part that is an integral or determinant part of that operation – see specification, page 6, lines 14-21 for example (e.g. if the operation is an incoming call, then the item can be a contact information such as a phone number, or contact card);

- iii. automatically recording the extracted items into a recorded item list;
- iv. presenting that list upon being called by at least one target application – the list is presented so that one or more items presented in the list can be selected by a user of the target application; and
- v. providing the user-selected items to the target application(s).

It will be noted that in Bates, the operation is not automatically traced or automatically recorded but is manually selected for tracing/recording.

Furthermore, Bates does not teach extraction of an item from the traced operation for recording. Bates is merely directed towards copying the manually selected operation itself. It is therefore submitted that Bates does not teach the action of extracting an item in the manner claimed.

Also, as Bates does not extract an item from the traced operation, Bates cannot be seen to present a list of such recorded extracted items in the manner claimed, or to allow for user selection of these items from the recorded item list. Instead, the user simply manually pastes the manually traced/recorded operation as per the user's instruction (e.g. clipboard or the like). Bates therefore cannot be seen to teach the action of providing the one or more user-selected items as required by claim 1.

In particular, Bates does not teach providing the claimed functionality through the automatic operations of a callable tracing application. In Bates, the copying and pasting actions are all manual – there is no tracing application that performs automatic tracing or that is callable in the manner claimed. Bates therefore cannot be seen to teach the presenting/providing actions upon a tracing application being called by a target application.

The present invention as set forth in amended claim 1 also provides for distinct advantages not achieved by the prior art.

For example, in the prior art, copying and pasting actions are totally manual, i.e. the operation (e.g. content) to be copied must be selected manually, the instruction to copy must come manually from the user, and the instruction to paste must come manually from the user.

Amended claim 1 helps to alleviate this problem and achieve an objective set out, for example, in the specification at page 3 line 33 to page 4 line 1, which states that an “aim of the current invention is to provide an easier and more usable copy-paste function, e.g. for computing devices, wherein user inputs can be reduced”. By providing for automatic tracing of operations, extracting items from said operations, and recording said items to allow for onward selection and provision, the user does not need to manually select an operation to be copied, nor does the user need to manually instruct the copying action. This is done automatically and the list is stored ready to be presented upon the tracing application being called.

The Office asserts it would be obvious to make the copying and recording of Bates “automatic” so as to arrive at the “automatically tracing” and “automatically recording” steps/features of the claimed invention. However, it is respectfully submitted that this is using hindsight to try and arrive at the claimed invention, and that Bates does not allow for just making earlier steps automatic. Furthermore, it is respectfully submitted that the present invention as set forth in amended claim 1 achieves a technical advantage that would not be arrived at by Bates combined with IBM.

For example, in the prior art, the onus is on the user to manually select, copy and paste their desired operation, and the onus is on the target application to handle the copied material correctly (see the overall teaching of the background of the invention in the specification). This raises issues in circumstances where direct copying and pasting would not be able to be handled by the target application.

In the present claimed invention as set forth in amended claim 1, the extraction of one or more items from the traced operation relating to (for example) the determinant part of the operation allows for critical automatic tracing and recording of operations. However, the present claimed invention lies in more than the mere automation of tracing and recording. By extracting an item from the operation rather than just recording the operation itself, allows for the critical or integral elements of the traced operations to be stored so as to be rendered available for provision to other relevant target applications (should such target applications wish to utilize that information).

In essence, the tracing application is now responsible for conducting correct and meaningful handling of traced operations so as to provide centralized storage of such items, as well as the actual provision of the relevant selected item to the target application. This takes the burden off the target application (as in the prior art) and allows for sharing of data between other applications, programs and even between other users (see page 8, lines 5-8 of the specification).

In view of the above, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 provides for distinct advantages over the teaching of the prior art and recites actions that are not obvious in view of the cited art.

Independent claims 15 and 30 have been amended in a manner similar to amended claim 1 and, for similar reasons, are also believed to be distinguished over Bates and IBM.

Dependent claims 2, 3, 5-9, 11-14, 16, 18-25, 27, 29, 33, 34, and 38 are also believed to be distinguished over Bates and IBM at least in view of their ultimate dependency from an independent claim which is believed to be allowable.

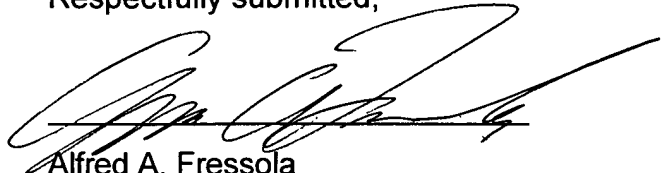
Remaining dependent claims 10, 28, and 35 (rejected under 35 USC §103(a) in view of Bates, IBM, and US patent application publication 2006/0155811, Goh, et al); dependent claims 26 and 38 (rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Bates, IBM, and US patent 6,591,295, Diamond, et al); and dependent claim 36 (rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as unpatentable over Bates, IBM, and US patent application publication 2005/0028008, Kumar) are also believed to be allowable at least in view of their ultimate dependency from an independent claim which is believed to be allowable.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that the present application as amended is in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to deposit account 23-0442 any fee deficiency required to submit this paper.

Dated: May 14, 2010

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alfred A. Fressola', written over a horizontal line.

Alfred A. Fressola  
Attorney for Applicant  
Reg. No. 27,550

WARE, FRESSOLA, VAN DER SLUYS  
& ADOLPHSON LLP  
Bradford Green, Building Five  
755 Main Street, P.O. Box 224  
Monroe, CT 06468  
Telephone: (203) 261-1234  
Facsimile: (203) 261-5676  
USPTO Customer No. 004955